

## Long Quiz Faces Plank Slaying Suspect Today

Says He Took Car Before Murder and Failed to Return

(Picture on Page A-2.)

Alvah B. Martin, 29, who admits he was in Norman Le Roy Plank's home the day before he was murdered, faced a long grilling today from detectives bent on breaking down his alibi.

Fairfax County police had a signed statement obtained by Kingston (N. Y.) police in which Martin admitted spending July 5 in the home which Plank shared with his sister, Mrs. Nell L. Burrer, at 4101 Forest lane, Chesterbrook Woods, near Falls Church.

In the statement, Martin said he took Mrs. Burrer's automobile to Washington about 7:30 o'clock that night and never returned to the home, choosing instead to make off with the car and \$14 Plank had given him for liquor.

Detective Chief H. T. Magarity of the Fairfax police, said, however, Martin told him and Detective Sgt. James M. Mahoney a conflicting story about leaving the house Sunday night, July 6, the night Plank presumably was killed. The body was found in the basement early last Monday by Donald Burrer, who like Mrs. Burrer, his mother, had been away from the week end.

Returned From Kingston.

Martin's conflicting story was told to the Fairfax detectives while they were returning him yesterday from Kingston, where he was arrested Friday.

Mr. Magarity said there was a "big gap" to be filled before the police determine, in a conference with Commonwealth Attorney Hugh Marsh, whether to file murder charges later in the day.

Martin will be arraigned in Trial Justice Court tomorrow on a grand larceny charge for theft of the Burrer automobile. He has a record for stealing another car, together with other offenses, and is wanted by the FBI for parole violation.

Police Chief Carl McIntosh said Martin would be questioned throughout the day and asked to give a complete new statement.

To Face Police Lineup.

In the matter of alibi-checking Martin will be exhibited in a police lineup at the Fairfax jail. One of the witnesses will be G. W. McDonald, a Vienna (Va.) carpenter who thinks he saw Martin and Plank together about 11 p.m. July 5 at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department carnival.

Chief McIntosh said Mr. McDonald recognized pictures of Plank and Martin as two men to whom he sold raffle tickets. Two women were with them, police were told.

In his statement to Kingston police, Martin said Plank aroused him from a bench at Lafayette Park about 3 a.m. Saturday and invited him to spend the night at his home. The two drank heavily Saturday, and that evening it was decided Martin would go to Washington for more liquor and "a couple of women," the statement said.

Stayed at Hotel, He Says.

Martin said he found one woman and then decided against returning to the Burrer home. Instead, he went to a cheap Washington hotel, leaving the car at a parking lot near the Greyhound bus station.

Tuesday, when he read of the murder and that police had broadcast a lookout for him and the car, he decided to go to the Catskill Mountains, the statement said. He spent a night in Baltimore and another in New York before he was arrested in Kingston last Friday.

Police said they learned Plank purchased a large quantity of liquor and beer at a Washington liquor store about 3 p.m. Saturday, July 5. They also reported they found a fifth of gin and half a case of beer in the house after the murder.

Martin said he exchanged his own clothing for a pair of trousers belonging to Donald Burrer before leaving the house Saturday evening. Although the suspect was reported nervous in Kingston and apparently suffering from a prolonged drinking bout, he seemed at ease on the way to Fairfax and slept most of the time in the black Buick he is charged with stealing.

## Police Unable to Locate Laytonville Woman

Montgomery County police said today they are still without information as to the whereabouts of Mrs. Mary Irene Finneyrock, 32, of near Laytonville, who disappeared Friday.

Mrs. Finneyrock, mother of two children, checked out of the National Cancer Institute, near Bethesda, where she was employed, about 10:30 a.m. Friday, according to police. George Finneyrock, her husband, said he has heard nothing from her since.

Mr. Finneyrock told police that she was in good health and he could give no reason for her disappearance.

## Fingerprints On Checks Clue In \$17,000 Theft

Laboratory examination of \$9,000 in checks found in a money bag atop a roof in Alexandria has revealed fingerprints which, police say, may lead to a solution of the mystery of the missing \$17,000 in cash that was in the bag.

Alexandria Police Lt. Russell A. Hawes disclosed today that fingerprints were found on the checks but none were discernable on the money bag, which was found Saturday on the roof of a residence at 405 Queen street.

The bag had been missing since three employees of the J. C. Penney Co., chain department store, said they placed it in the night depository of the First National Bank in Alexandria June 18. Bank officials said it was not in the depository when it was opened the next morning.

## Court Commits Bricker Attacker For Sanity Test

Hearing Set Aug. 14; Ex-Policeman Faces Two Charges

A mental examination was ordered today for William L. Kaiser, former Capitol policeman charged with firing two shots Saturday at Senator Bricker, Republican, of Ohio.

Judge Ellen K. Raedy in Municipal Court directed that Kaiser be sent to Gallinger Hospital for observation and set August 14 for a preliminary hearing.

Assistant United States Attorney John B. Diamond requested the examination during the brief court hearing.

Kaiser is to be held without bond, and Mr. Diamond announced that he was being charged with assault with intent to kill and with carrying a dangerous weapon.

Kaiser was not represented by counsel.

Displays No Emotion.

He was pale but displayed no emotion during the brief time he was in court. He stumbled a little as a policeman led him from the court to the cellblock.

Assault with intent to kill is a felony and to prosecute requires a grand jury indictment unless the defendant waives that procedure. The maximum penalty is 15 years. Carrying a dangerous weapon is a misdemeanor, with a minimum penalty of one year in jail and \$1,000 fine.

Senator Bricker did not attend the court session. Lt. Robert Murray of the metropolitan police explained earlier that it would not be necessary for Senator Bricker to be present.

Arrested in Less Than Hour.

Murray and Detective Sgt. Wilbur Coffey arrested Kaiser Saturday afternoon in the lobby of an apartment house at 1330 Massachusetts avenue N.W. less than an hour after two shots were fired at Senator Bricker near the Senate Office Building entrance to the subway to the Capitol.

Kaiser, who lost his job as Capitol policeman last April 30 and who several years ago was an employee in the county auditor's office at Columbus, Ohio, was quoted by police as saying: "I did it to refresh Senator Bricker's memory."

The two shots went wild, but the first of them, fired from a distance of only 15 feet, left a nick shoulder-high in the brickwork. Senator Bricker and J. H. Macomber, Senate Expenditures Committee clerk, jumped aboard the single-rail subway car and sped toward the Capitol. They crouched behind a seat as the assailant reloaded the .22-caliber target pistol and fired again from 150 feet away.

John Eckler, administrative assistant to Senator Bricker, said today that "the Senator has said nothing one way or the other about asking leniency" for Kaiser. He declared Senator Bricker is leaving the entire matter to police authorities.

Senator Bricker told reporters last night he was more concerned with the potential danger to his colleagues than with his own escape Saturday.

Worried About Crowds.

"I've often worried about the huge crowds we have just overheard in the Senate galleries," he said. "It would be a mighty easy thing for some one to drop a grenade in the railing. But I don't know what can be done about the situation other than have our guards and doormen be more alert. We certainly do not want to search all of the visitors."

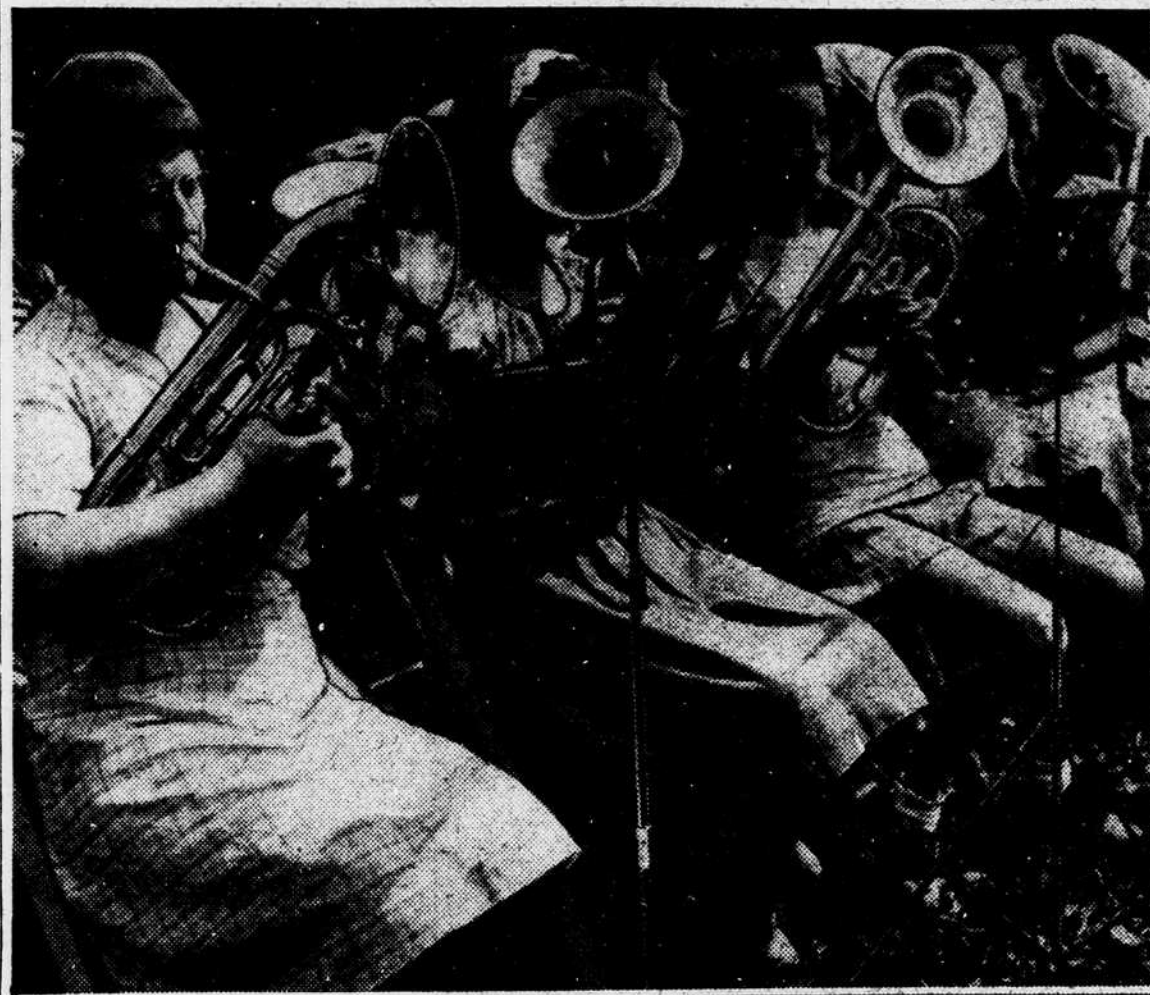
After he identified Kaiser last Saturday, Senator Bricker said the former Capitol policeman had talked with him several times in recent months about money he claimed he lost in the liquidation of a Columbus loan and savings firm in 1932. Senator Bricker said he was attorney for Kaiser at the time and officially filed a liquidation suit against the concern. He declared he did not remember Kaiser in connection with that action and that he had not known Kaiser in Ohio.

Kaiser was appointed to the Capitol police in October, 1945, by Senator Bricker's predecessor, former Senator Huffman, Democrat, of Ohio. Senator Bricker explained that Kaiser did not lose his job until almost two months after his own appointment went to work as a Capitol policeman.

Miss Benneyan Secretary On Church DP Committee.

Miss Aroos Benneyan, former director of the American Christian Committee for Refugees, has been appointed secretary of the Church World Service Committee on Displaced Persons, it was announced today. She will direct the work of the committee, which encompasses the American Protestant and Orthodox churches' united program for displaced persons.

Miss Benneyan, who previously served the national board of the YWCA, is a graduate of Teachers' College, Columbia University. She served with the American Christian Committee for Refugees for eight years, making a visit to displaced persons camps in the American zone of Germany during this period.



SHE SHOWS HOW — Mrs. Walter Swyers (left), wife of the director of the band at Camp Happyland, leads out on the alto horn as a group of youthful pupils follows suit.

## Williams Is Indicted For Murder, Assault In Court Shooting Case

Dan Williams, Jr., 40, colored, disbarred lawyer, was indicted today on charges of first-degree murder and assault with a dangerous weapon in the fatal shooting of two persons and the wounding of two others in a gun battle which began in the Municipal Court Building May 16.

Williams was accused of fatally shooting Pvt. Hubert W. Estes, 52, of the first police precinct, and Ray E. Devendorf, 68, a clerk for the Committee on Admissions and Grievances of District Court.

The wounded were George W. Dalzell, secretary of the committee, and Cecil E. Clair, a guard in the Civil Division Building of Municipal Court.

Williams was said to have been arguing about the return of money he had deposited in connection with his application for admission to the bar when the shooting began in the court building. The battle ended three blocks away at Sixth and F streets N.W. when Williams was wounded by Pvt. Estes. The policeman was mortally wounded when he shot Williams. Williams had come here several weeks before the shooting from Mississippi.

Another indictment among 18 returned today by a District grand jury before Chief Justice Bolitha J. Laws of District Court charged Lewis H. Virgil, 48, colored, of the first block of Q street N.W., with embezzling interest due postal savings depositors.

Virgil, a clerk at a branch post office, was charged in 10 counts with having converted to his own use small sums of money which should have been paid to postal savings patrons.

Man Shoots 3 Dead, Wounds 1, Kills Self

By the Associated Press  
SNOWDENTOWN, Md., July 14.—A 30-year-old colored man shot three other colored persons dead, wounded another and then killed himself last night 2½ miles south of Glen Burnie, Anne Arundel County police reported.

After shooting the first of his four victims in an argument, the killer, Elijah Queen, barricaded himself in his house. Police were sent to the scene to fight it out.

But the man turned the shotgun on himself before they arrived. Police Chief John H. Sauer identified the dead as: Queen, Levi Harris, who lived in Queen's house; Viola Queen and Alice Miles, neighbors.

Wesley Hammond, wounded in the head, was reported in "fair" condition at South Baltimore General Hospital.

Harris was found on the ground outside the house, shot in the head, with a butcher knife beside him. The other victims, Chief Sauer said, evidently were attracted to the scene by the sound of the shooting and while standing outside the house were shot by Queen from the bedroom window.

Thousands Inspect Dupont Circle Mansion

Additional Washingtonians today inspected the Lefter mansion overlooking Dupont Circle as a representative of the wrecking company announced that the huge home would continue to be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Thursday.

Belmont Siegel, president of the Arrow Wrecking and Lumber Co., estimated that 10,000 persons already had visited the home, built in 1891 by Levi Z. Leiter at 1500 New Hampshire avenue N.W. It will be replaced by an apartment house.

His 5 Children Play.

Adj. Swyers' wife, Anna, teaches the alto horn choral group and their five children also are band members. They are Ann, 18; William, 17; Walter, Jr., 13; Robert, 9, and Davy, 6. Davy is learning to play the triangle and appears to like privacy in his efforts. He was believed to be the source of some unusual music which came from behind a tree as the band played a bit farther away. There is all sort of mysterious music around the area. It emanates from doorways, windows and other odd places as the youngsters practice by themselves. Many of them have progressed far and their collective music, when under leadership, is well synchronized.

Occasionally a youngster who is alone will break out in boogie-woogie. This appears to excite Davy. Every 5 minutes he approached Col. Bouterse with a plaintive request to join the advanced section.

Advancement "Soon."

"Will I be able to play with them soon, colonel?" he asked.

"Sure, Davy, soon," replied Col. Bouterse encouragingly. Davy walked away, banging at the triangle and telling friends: "O, boy, he said soon."

Besides their band duties, several of the youngsters pitch in with kitchen duty. The kitchen is a popular place, with young appetites and fresh air.

The leaders like their work, and enjoy counseling the children, helping them with their devotional periods, and sharing the excitement of swimming and "Fun Night." Besides Mr. Swyers, the other leaders are Capt. John Needham of 3903 Military road N.W., and Herbert Theobald, who is director of the Salvation Army Band in Springfield, Mass. He is guest bandmaster at "Happyland."

Among the Washington children learning to play music at the camp are Ronald Davis, 15, of 1411 G street S.E.; Raymond Cooper, 10, of 1263 Wisconsin avenue N.W.; Lucille Moore, 15, of 3217 Twelfth street N.E.; Gailne Barham, 12, and her sister, Eleanor Barham, 10, of 448 H street N.W.; Helen McIntire, 16, of 919 G street S.E., and Kenneth Holroyd, 10, of 8 Leeward Green S.W.

Other instructors are Capt. Robert Purdum, Bible class, Lt. Howard Whitehead, cornet, Capt. Al Osborne, alto horn; Capt. Leslie Hall, trombone; Capt. Victor Farmer, baritone and Euphonium; Edgar Watts, recreation, and Peter Hoffman, Jr., guest cornet soloist.

The salvation Army project is one of several scheduled in the camp area during the summer. The previous group was the organization's Red Shield Boys' Club. A scouting program for "Girl Scouts" starts July 21. The Sunbeams or junior scouting groups, take over August 4. The final group will be the Fresh-air camp for underprivileged children not directly affiliated with the Salvation Army.



Brows drawn in concentration, a group of Washington youngsters attending the Salvation Army band camp near Triangle, Va., tries a little ensemble work under the watchful eye of Capt. John D. Needham (left). The students are (left to right) Kenneth Holroyd, Helen McIntire, Eleanor Barham and her sister Gailne, Lucille Moore, Raymond Cooper and Ronald Davis. Kneeling behind the beginners are Lt. Howard Whitehead (left) and Capt. Leslie Hall, assisting with the lessons.

## 86 Child Recruits Get Training At Salvation Army 'Band Camp'

By Harry Lever  
Star Staff Correspondent

TRIANGLE, Va., July 14.—Eighty-six boys and girls from the District and surrounding areas who are attending a "band camp" here are learning to play musical instruments in order to become "street corner" musicians for the Salvation Army.

The camp is known as "Happyland." It is located in the Choptank area not far from town. It has complete camp facilities and the daily program provides for band practice, recreation, rest, and devotional periods.

The campers, who range from 11 to 18 years old, are affiliated with the Salvation Army, sponsors of the two weeks project. Of the total, 45 now play in the "advanced" band while 41 are beginners. There is no tuition fee and if some of the young people do not have their own musical instruments, the Salvation Army provides them.

Music and Outdoor Life.

"Here we give the children a musical education combined with healthy outdoor life," said Col. Wesley W. Bouterse, head of the Salvation Army in the District. "These children are giving their time to the dedication of a Christian motivation. They will go out on the street in their home towns and play the sacred music of the Salvation Army when their training fully qualifies them."

One of the most enthusiastic of the beginners is Robert Moore, 11, of Bridgeport, W. Va., smallest boy in the group. He wants to get into the advance band and publicized his desire by wriggling his 99 pounds into position behind a big brass Sousaphone, largest instrument in the band.

Finally ensconced in the horn's "folds," he let loose with a series of "oompah-oompahs" which might have been perfect except that the big horn began to fall and he had to get out from under for reasons of safety.

"He's coming along fine, though, in playing the small alto horn," asserted Adj. Walter Swyers, one of the band leaders.

His 5 Children Play.

Adj. Swyers' wife, Anna, teaches the alto horn choral group and their five children also are band members. They are Ann, 18; William, 17; Walter, Jr., 13; Robert, 9, and Davy, 6. Davy is learning to play the triangle and appears to like privacy in his efforts. He was believed to be the source of some unusual music which came from behind a tree as the band played a bit farther away. There is all sort of mysterious music around the area. It emanates from doorways, windows and other odd places as the youngsters practice by themselves. Many of them have progressed far and their collective music, when under leadership, is well synchronized.

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Smallest boy in the beginners' group, 11-year-old Robert Moore of Bridgeport, W. Va., tackles the band's largest instrument, the big brass Sousaphone.

—Star Staff Photos.

## GSJ Contract Delay Ordered Until Senate Investigators Report

By Joseph Young

The Senate Civil Service Committee today ordered a delay in new contract talks between Government Services, Inc., and the Public Buildings Administration until its subcommittee investigating GSI issues its recommendations concerning the non-profit corporation's future.

The committee acted after The Star yesterday revealed that GSI and PBA officials were discussing the possibility of drafting a new contract to permit GSI to continue its operation of the 53 Federal cafeterias and snack bars here.

Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming, head of the Federal Works Agency, under which the PBA operates, was quoted by the committee as saying that no further contract discussions are held. PBA has the responsibility for making the contract to operate the cafeterias.

Headed by Senator Baldwin, Republican, of Connecticut, the subcommittee has been investigating GSI affairs for the last six months and recently concluded hearings on the subject. It expects to issue its recommendations within the next two weeks.

The new contract under discussion would give the Government a better deal financially in the operation of the cafeterias, and would also call for stricter Government auditing and supervision of GSI.

Proposed changes in the existing contract would give the Government a flat annual fee plus a percentage of the profits, or a flat percentage of the gross receipts. The present system calls for GSI and the Government to split profits 50-50, but in some years GSI has operated at a loss and consequently the Government received no money.

GSJ officials today reiterated their denials that the contract discussions were an attempt to circumvent or influence the Senate committee's forthcoming recommendations. The officials said the talks had been going on for some time in an attempt to modernize the contract which has been in effect since 1927.

Deane Expresses Intentions.

Representative Deane, Democrat, of North Carolina, commented at this point that the Home Rule Subcommittee of the Education, the Arts and the Board of Education in most municipalities, he pointed out, are not only free of political supervision, but also have certain powers over the financing and control of schools.

A board of education with nothing but advisory powers, he predicted, would be out of line with the practice in most cities. In several municipalities and school districts, he told the committee, the education board has taxing powers which the board here does not have.

He advised the system of appointment of board members here by judges of the District Court as a further guarantee of freedom from politics.

Morris and Kogod Testify.

If a reorganization of the District government should set up a Department of Education, he recommended that the heads of the two departments should certainly be the superintendent of schools.

Edgar Morris, chairman, and Fred S. Kogod, vice chairman of the Board of Public Welfare, reiterated the testimony they had previously given before the committee in favor of a Department of Public Welfare under a citizen board "responsible for policies and the administration of the department."

The board believes, they told the committee, that such citizen participation is peculiarly needed in the field of public welfare where policy and procedures in handling "the human element" are less formalized than in the professional fields of health, sanitation, police, fire and other departments.

Doubts They'd Resign.

Asked if the present Welfare Board would resign if the pending legislation relegating it to an advisory capacity were enacted, Mr. Morris told the committee he thought the members would not resign. Their interest, he said, was "to do something for the underprivileged."

Harry S. Wender, chairman of the Recreation Board, presented a comprehensive argument for independent status for his group. He cited several surveys here and elsewhere to support his contention.

No objection to a Recreation Board here had come from any source, he told the committee, until he learned to his surprise that the District Commissioners had recommended recently that it be one of the agencies transferred to the Commissioners' jurisdiction under any reorganization.

Conferees on Gun Bill To Meet This Afternoon

House and Senate conferees on the bill to strengthen the District's control over the carrying of concealed weapons met briefly this morning and adjourned to another session this afternoon.

Action was deferred because of a meeting of another congressional group.

—Scurlock Photo.

## D.C. Recreation, School Officials Urge Autonomy

House Home Rule Unit Told of Opposition to Reduction of Powers

By Harold B. Rogers

Officials of the District Boards of Education and Recreation today recommended that in any reorganization of the city government their units should retain their present independent and autonomous status.

Also testifying before the House Subcommittee on Home Rule and Reorganization, spokesmen for the Board of Public Welfare urged that this board should have more autonomy than it has now. They opposed pending legislation to transfer most Public Welfare power to the District Commissioners leaving the board as only an advisory agency.

Lengthy testimony to this same effect presented recently by Welfare Board members to another House District subcommittee handling the new legislation on the board was made a part of the Home Rule Subcommittee record.

Hearings to Last Rest of Month.

The bill, which would curtail the powers of the present board, has been approved by the full House District Committee and is now on the House calendar awaiting action.

The Home Rule Subcommittee this morning launched its second week of considering the legislation on both home rule and reorganization of the District government. It will continue hearings daily, Monday through Friday, the rest of this month.

No bill is before the Home Rule group but it is expected testimony from Federal and District officials as well as individuals as a background for writing a proposed charter for the District government to be presented to Congress at its next session in January.

For the Board of Education, Dr. Robert A. Maurer, its president, appeared to present the testimony of Mrs. Henry Grattan Doyle, its president.

Urges Citizen Board.

He urged that a citizen board responsible for policies and administration was preferable to any administrator directly responsible to the head of any District government committee. He said the board represents, he said, "a cross-section of the community" and speaks for public opinion.

Congress intended that education in Washington should be entirely removed from the influence of particular interests. He predicted, he said, that the Board of Education in most municipalities, he pointed out, are not only free of political supervision, but also have certain powers over the financing and control of schools.

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